

REMARKS

The office action of July 25, 2008, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that the application is objected to for not containing section headings. The Abstract of the Disclosure is also objected to.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-8 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over EP 1240997 to Hassenbein.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Hassenbein in view of the patent to Wetmore.

In connection with the Examiner's objections to the application, applicant has canceled the original Abstract, attached hereto an Abstract of the Disclosure on a separate sheet, and has amended the specification to include section headings.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted

that the objections to the application and abstract of the disclosure are overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has canceled claim 6, amended claims 1, 10 and 11, and added new claims 12-17.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims to address the instances of indefiniteness pointed out by the Examiner.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

The inventive construction of the cage bar provides a high mechanical rigidity and thus leads to limited susceptibility to

disturbances. The grinding of the outer surface makes finishing possible at minimal cost since the final measurements are first determined via the grinding and the previously conducted finishing with limited tolerances can follow. By the expansion of the spacing region between the neighboring cage bars plugging of the out-flow channel is reduced and thereby disruptions are avoided. A construction such as this is not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-8 and 10-11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and the rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are overcome and should be withdrawn.

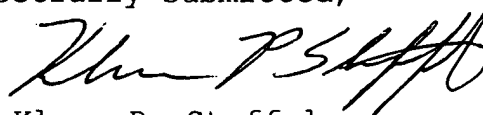
Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

HKH-25

Respectfully submitted,

By



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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 27, 2008.

By:

  
Klaus P. Stoffel

Date: October 27, 2008